



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MAYOR JERRY SANDERS FACT SHEET

MAYOR SANDERS ANNOUNCES CRIME DOWN FOR FIRST QUARTER OF 2009

Police Response Times Continue Improvement

Mayor Jerry Sanders today announced that crime in the city of San Diego continues to decline, with the overall crime rate down 16.6 percent in the first quarter of this year compared to the same period in 2008.

The crime rate is calculated per 1,000 residents. In total, there were 28.03 crimes per 1,000 residents, compared to 33.61 during the same period last year. The overall crime rate is based on totals for “index crimes,” including violent crimes, such as murder, rape, robbery and aggravated assault, and property crimes such as burglary, larceny and motor vehicle theft.

For the first three months of 2009, violent crime decreased 9.6 percent compared with the same period last year. There were a total of 1,284 violent crimes reported in San Diego from January through March, compared with 1,420 during the same period last year.

Robberies, aggravated assaults and murders were all down; however, the number of reported rapes has increased. There were 75 rapes over the first three months of 2009, compared with 69 during the same three months last year – an 8.7 percent increase.

Property crime was down across all categories for the first quarter of this year, with an overall drop of 17.6 percent from the same period last year. There were a total of 8,128 property crimes from January through March this year, compared to the 9,863 reported in the same period last year.

Juvenile and gang crime were also down during the first quarter of this year. Gang crime fell by 7.8 percent compared with the first quarter, and the number of violent crimes against juveniles decreased by 24.1 percent.

Mayor Sanders also announced that emergency response times by San Diego Police improved. For the top four priority calls (levels E through 3) were down 4.5 percent – from 6.7 minutes to 6.4 minutes – during the first three months of the year compared with the same period in 2008.

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